Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /098 W

R 101720Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9325
AMEMBASSY AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 978

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PEPR, MR, SP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA

1. SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER MARCELINO OREJA ARRIVED IN NOUAKCHOTT APRIL 7 FOR 24 HOUR VISIT DURING WHICH HE MET WITH PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH AND FOREIGN MINISTER HAMDI MOUKNASS. WIDE NEWSPAPER COVERAGE REFERRED TO CLOSE AND FAVORABLY EVOLVING RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES, BUT WESTERN SAHARA WAS NOT MENTIONED IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE IN GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED NEWSPAPER CHAAB, PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH REAFFIRMED IN THE COURSE OF INTERVIEW WITH SPANISH TELEVISION CORRESPONDENTS AXAOJITANIAN POSITION TAKEN DURING MEETING OF OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS IN TRIPOLI: QUOTE MAURITANIA RECOGNIZES THE SPANISH NATURE (HISPANITE) OF THE CANARY ISLANDS END QUOTE.

2. OREJA VISIT WAS EXTREMELY CORDIAL ONE. FONMIN MOUKNASS
AND OREJA FIRST MET IN 1966 WHEN OREJA VISITED NOUAKCHOTT AS
CHEF DE CABINET TO FORMER SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER CATIELA,
AND MOUKNASS WAS HIGH COMMISSIONER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS. DURING
TOAST AT DINNER HOSTED BY MOUKNASS, OREJA REMARKED THAT MOUKNASS
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AND HE HAD KEPT IN CLOSE CONTACT SINCE 1966.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NOUAKC00978
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** Film Number: D780157-0985

Format: TEL

From: NOUAKCHOTT

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780474/aaaaclgp.tel

Line Count: 58 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c36b20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3021255 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: VISIT OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, MR, SP, (OREJA AGUIRRE, MARCELINO)

To: MADRID Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c36b20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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